

Appl. No. 10/681,639
Amendment dated July 10, 2008
Reply to Office Action

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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously amended) A platform comprising one or more dry porous membranes for detecting at least one component in a low volume liquid sample, the membranes providing a membrane channel through which the liquid sample can flow by capillary action while reactions take place determinative of at least one component in the sample;

the platform formed with sample application means and having top and bottom layers with hydrophilic surfaces to enclose and position the membranes, each layer having a top and bottom layer surface formed so that the bottom surface of the top layer and the top surface of the bottom layer may be brought into fixed face to face contact so that the layers enclose and hold the membrane in place and form a platform flow channel upstream of the membrane and including at least one indent in at least one of the hydrophilic surfaces, the formed channel is in fluid communication with the membrane to permit the liquid sample to flow through the channel to the membrane.

2. (Previously amended) The platform according to claim 1 wherein the platform flow channel has an indent in the bottom surface of the top layer.

3. (Withdrawn) A platform according to claim 1 in which the platform flow channel is formed in the top surface of the bottom layer.

4. (Withdrawn) A platform according to claim 1 in which the platform flow channel is formed with indents in the top surface of the bottom layer and in the bottom surface of the top layer.

5. (Previously amended) The platform according to claim 1 further comprising a window in the top layer for observing the results of a reaction which takes place in the membrane.

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6. (Previously amended) A device for the rapid and efficient detection of at least one component in a low volume liquid sample, the device containing a membrane in which reactions take place determinative of the presence of at least one component in the sample.

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